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10 MR. LEONARD: I'm speaking tonight as a
11 private voting, tax paying, rate paying citizen. I am
12 a 13-year resident of Nevada. I am married, have three
13 daughters. I'm also a degreed engineer and an employed
14 manager. I followed this issue since the 1980s. The
15 perception in this public hearing is that only the
16 intervenors and the anti-s have legitimate public
17 comments. I've listened to the sometimes hysterical
18 and outrageous nonscientific rhetoric of the opponents.
19 I have read both the newspapers here in Nevada, and the
20 project science. The effort has been far more rigorous
21 and exacting than any project in history.

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22 Yucca Mountain has been voted. It is time
23 for our leaders, state and federal, legislative and
24 executive, to lead, and to follow through on the law,
25 fund the project. Nuclear is a 20 percent energy share

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1 and 50-year mature industry. There is no indication
2 that we Americans will give up our lifestyles and use
3 less energy.

4 Fossil fuels are release more poisons over
5 more of the U.S. through black lung disease, acid rain,

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6 particulate gasses and radiation released from coal
7 mining and burning. We must store the spent fuel in a
8 secure site. If the site is determined suitable by the
9 Secretary of Energy, and President Bush, it is time to
10 move forward. The federal government is legally
11 obligated to accept and own both the legacy defense and
12 commercial high-level waste. I expect our elected
13 officials to do their duty, and stop delaying the
14 repository. The State of Nevada -- sorry, I lost my
15 place. And the federal government must collaborate on
16 fees in lieu of taxes. Remember, a single majority of
17 Congress, not the two-thirds majority of the last
18 administration, is required.

19 Politicians, do your duty and follow the law.
20 Listen to the DOE, the national labs, and the National
21 Academy of Science.

22 In closing, I do have a comment for Senator
23 Reid. He was misinformed. No security delays. Just
24 help finding parking spots. The public comment period,
25 slots were snapped up fast, but the real delay was an

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1 unruly crowd prone to multiple interruptions and
2 long-winded political speeches by eight elected

3 speakers constantly running for re-election.

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4 (APPLAUSE)

5 MR. LEONARD: Thank you.